TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST, 1998

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 SECRETARY: Nancy Marsden KD4ITX 268-3990
V. PRESIDENT: Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC MEETINGS :	**Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building.**
TARC NETS:	**VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910**
	FRIENDSHIP - Thursdays at 1830 hrs. ao146.910
	MOSQUITO - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC REPEATERS:	**VHF - 146.910 and146.970. UHF 444.150**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Thanks to all of the dedicated fire fighters for risking their lives to bring this long nightmare of fire to a conclusion. Our thanks also to the multitude of folks from across our state, nation and even at least two foreign countries for coming to our rescue. We are proud and grateful to our neighbors, churches, clubs, the Jaycees and other civic organizations for their donation of labor and essential supplies and equipment to the effort.

>Never in recent memory have I witnessed the coming together of a community to assist in a tragedy as did the citizens of Central Florida. Volunteers performed many services that at one time might have seemed trivial. Firefighters came from all across the US and Canada bringing their equipment to help save lives and property. When the request for laundry service was made, I overheard a lady say, "let me do the laundry. That is a job I can do". This lady's statement exemplifies the tone and mind set of our community. It is truly heart warming to witness this desire to help . We are grateful to so many who gave to preserve and protect our property.

>We must not forget that there are many who did not fare so well. Our thoughts and best wishes are with all of you who suffered losses to the flames.

>In the near future there will be a 'Thank You Parade' in Mims to show appreciation to all who contributed to bringing this catastrophic event to a conclusion. Further information will be forthcoming.

>I would like to remind the club members of the upcoming election of new officers and BOD members. The election will be held at the November 24 club meeting.

>I would like for the Board of Directors to establish a means by which club members living outside the Titusville area could cast their votes for the candidates of their choice at the November election.

>The TARC Christmas Dinner is in need of a chairperson. If you would like to chair that event please contact Pike, W4EPU. 73s & 88s

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

AUG. 3 N4MOD JIM HARRIS
AUG. 4 KC4ZHE JOHN HALASZ
AUG. 5 KC4VMQ DONNA CLARK
AUG. 7 KF4SEK NICHOLAS GRAY
AUG. 7 N1OGE BERTHA BONARDI
AUG.10 KE4BBG TOYIA NGUYEN
AUG.12 KE4BBB CLINTON GRIFFIN
AUG.16 W4EPU PIKE ABELL
AUG.16 KB2ZLH JUDY SMITH
AUG.16 AD4NA TOM NGUYEN
AUG.17 N9EZV KEN TENDICK
AUG.18 KA0YSO DAVID JACKSON
AUG.18 KE4BBH JIM PREVATT
AUG.20 KC4WGU MIKE HENSLEY
AUG.21 WD4JNM MARTY COIN
AUG.23 KD4VFU JACK HALL
AUG.24 W1KBI ROBERT BRINK
AUG.24 W2SDB BILL EPPLEY
AUG.28 KV4BY CLARENCE BAUER
AUG.28 KE4HJQ RON MORGAN
AUG.29 KE4HOE FRED HADDAD
AUG.31 KF4DTC ABBIE MARSDEN

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.....

Dear Editor,
Last time I played the harmonica at Melbourne Municipal Hall. This time I played over the mutual broadcasting system of 375 radio stations. On Friday, May 8, I was at the Florida Convention Center, the new headquarters of Radio WMMB. I play for the Larry Brewer show on Thursday at 9:45 a. m. (1240 and 1350 on the AM dial). Last Friday they were celebrating their 50th anniversary and they had several notables present. Jim Bohannon conducted his evening broadcast live from the center at 10 p. m.

The first hour he spent with a couple of guests and was in the studio separated by a glass partition and external speaker system. At 11 p. m. Jim announced they would go outside and interview people. In doing so he spied me with harmonica in hand. Larry Brewer introduced me and handed me the mike, with Jim assisting. As I started to play *Red River Valley,* the audience clapped in time to the music. When I finished, a big round of applause took place. Larry said it was perfect and I received a lot of congratulations. I also got a call from an old friend who moved some time ago to Fairfax, VA. She caught the broadcast and taped it. She played it back to me. I didn't know it sounded that good. Maybe one day I'll be a weekly guest on the Bohannon show. Bill Eppley, W2SDB

THE HISTORY OF HAM RADIO
From March 1977 - *73 Amateur Radio*
By Eric G. Shalkhauser, W9CI

ED. NOTE: Jim Meeks,N4ZNQ, was 'cleaning out' and came across an old 1977 copy of 73 Amateur Radio magazine. We hope you will enjoy the article on the history of ham radio reprinted below. The author was born in 1894. This article was entitled Part 1. I wish we had reprints of subsequent articles, but alas, do not.

PART 1
When trying to get just a glimpse of wireless history in a nutshell, it is traditional to lay most emphasis on the years from 1910 and on. This period coincided with radio rules and regulations, the three Rs, being formulated by the United States government. We then project the general

accumulation as far as 1927-1928, after which time some degree of order was again established in the radio industry, overall.

In telling our story, it is impossible to refrain from making pertinent insertions of interest. There were many occurrences during those early years that stand out vividly in memory and need telling. Those beginning years were mostly of pioneering and exploring, bringing forth many discoveries and inventions in rapid order, in very short periods of time.

>1909 To begin with, let me set the year 1909 as a reference. Why 1909? We will become aware of the reason as we review the history in relating the *magic that is wireless.*

And it sure was magic to everyone in those days, believe me! Let me take a short glimpse into the past history of wireless. There were no laws on the books. There were no rules or regulations pertaining to wireless. The general public was not even aware that radio waves existed. They had no inkling of what was meant by communicating without wires. Practically nothing was known about electricity. All this was a mystery.

>1888 In 1888, just 89 years ago, a German Scientist made a discovery when he sensed that there was something present in the vicinity of an electrical spark in a Lyden jar discharge. This elementary discovery made by Heinrich Hertz set the stage for many scientific investigations. They were carried on in university laboratories, stimulating research in the field of electro-magnetic waver.

>1892 About this time, along came Marconi from Italy. He was born in the year 1874. At the age of 18, while a freshman at the University of Bologna, Marconi discovered that an electric discharge from a condenser could be detected. This made possible the transmission and reception of signals over some distance. Playing around and experimenting for four years, he finally went to England where he demonstrated his findings and equipment.

>1896 In 1896, Marconi obtained a British patent for *wireless telegraph apparatus using electricity.* How utterly novel and primitive that description sounds today. And that was only eighty-one years ago! (At that time I was 3 years old, but do not recall the incident!)

>1897 Within a year, commercial interests became aware of the possibilities in the application and use of Marconi's invention and organized the Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company, Ltd., in England.

>1899 In 1899, Marconi and his assistants succeeded in sending signals across the English channel with their crude equipment. The main bottleneck was their iron filing coherer for detection of signals. The use of galena, silicon, or carborundum was not yet known for detecting wireless signals. In this same year, the Marconi Wireless Company of America was established.

>1900 At the turn of the century, the English company changed its name to Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company, Ltd., to be more in keeping with current developments. In 1901, Marconi and two of his engineers came across the Atlantic to set up their wireless equipment in Halifax, Newfoundland. They succeeded in receiving messages across the waters from a station transmitting out of Polduh, England. All this on very long wavelengths, since the shorter ones were still undiscovered. By this time, many ships at sea were installing transmitting and receiving equipment and many shore and inland locations established communication centers.

>1902 By 1902. a great deal of interest was shown in the application of this relatively new phenomenon. Gradually, better detecting devices were invented and larger stations were erected in Europe, America and other countries. One should call attention to the contributions made at this time by Sir J. J. Thompson, a British scientist, who had discovered the electron, enclosed in a vacuum tube.

It was a sequel to Edison's invention of the light bulb.

>1904 and 1906 This led to the development of the use of vacuum tubes in detecting wireless signals, where J. A. Fleming in 1904 and Lee DeForest in 1906 made their contributions. While the sagas of the sea kept the newspapers busy and the public talking of the great wonders of wireless and its possibilities, what do you suppose was going on among the younger scientists across the country, especially in the eastern part of our United States? All of these intriguing possibilities of radio did not just belong to commercial companies - *by no means!*

Here we digress a bit and look into the back rooms and woodsheds around the country, taking note of the enthusiasm and the influence that wireless had produced among the young. We need to find out what was going on in these areas, since this part of early wireless history is vital in following the progress of the new discovery.

>1909 This brings me to the year 1909, previously referred to. While the commercial interests considered wireless in terms of their restricted domain, we find a group of "wireless kids" in New York, no more than ten in number, all in their teens, getting together and forming a Junior Wireless Club on January 2, 1909. They were putting together metal plates, wires, iron filings, making their own coherers, winding coils and other paraphernalia, and succeeding in sending dots and dashes according to the Morse code, between their homes, from block to block, and even across miles. They were listening in to what was going on, hearing the messages floating around between ships and shore stations. This was real fascination!

>1910 Naturally there were bound to be conflicts developing, especially between the commercial companies and the "interlopers." Interference occurred and became objectionable for "the big boys". So in the following year, 1910, the existing problems were brought to the halls of Congress, to find ways and means to regulate wireless communication and define domains. True, the ether was free space and belonged to everybody, but the commercials and their interests sought to have vested right in their use of this "free" space. Thus, the conflict.....

The conflict was brought to a head in the introduction of two bills, one in the House and one in the Senate. House bill #23495 and Senate bill #7243 were introduced. The senator strongly in favor of these bills was none other than Chancy Depew of New York, which was the bailiwick where the interlopers were operating. The contents of the bills were strongly against any use of the airways by anyone except the commercials. The teenagers with their homemade equipment and their determination, organization and above all, their spirit, had other ideas. They wrote a letter to Chancy and told him so. Here we note something which will be of interest to all of you. The boys of the Junior Wireless Club had a meeting, selected their representatives, and asked to have a hearing in Washington. They composed another letter to Chancy Depew, were granted a hearing, and on April 28, 1910, were given the privilege of presenting their case. Believe it or not, these boys won their right to go on experimenting as they had done before. This Junior Wireless Club had performed like veterans in the halls of Congress, and to them and many others went the freedom of the ether for many years to come.

>1911 So in 1911, the enthusiasm on the part of radio amateurs grew tremendously. In the same year, the Junior Wireless Club changed its name to The Radio Club of America, and remains so to this day. The members became notables in wireless. The club was held in very high esteem, especially after their confrontation with Congress and their display of courage and dedication for a cause dear to their hearts and right in principle.

>By 1911, every wireless company and operator on ship and shore knew that regulations were a

necessity to hold down interference in radio communication. An Act, dated June 24, 1910, authorized by our Department of Commerce, bureau of Navigation, became what at that time was considered the law of the land regarding radio transmission and reception. This Act consisted of four sections, all very general, and was labeled An Act to Require Apparatus and Operators for Radio Communication on Certain Ocean Steamers.

>1912 On July 23, 1912 (two years later), and then only pertaining to section one of the four sections, the Act was amended, spelling out some specific details concerning operators and ships at sea. From then on, all transmitting stations would have to apply for a license to operate. The law was not too specific. It had loopholes, and many inland stations, especially amateur radio enthusiasts and experimenters, went about hooking up induction coils and going on the air with call letters assigned by themselves. For instance, a "one inch" spark coil was considered to be limited to no further than eight or ten miles, so did not fall within the law crossing state borders! What a "primitive" concept of wireless in those days. The type of signal coming from these amateur operated coils did not conform to any known bandwidth or frequency standard. A signal was "just a signal."

At this time, a number of wireless organizations blossomed. Notable among them were: 1) The Institute of Radio Engineers, 2) The American Radio Relay League, and 3) The National Amateur Wireless Association. Up to this time there was very little literature or published information available. It did not take long for these to appear. Soon small companies issued store catalogs offering everything from loose couplers to crystals and crystal holders, headphones, and all sorts of gear to get the amateur started. Enthusiasm ran high. Wireless was a new found discovery and appealed to the young as well as the old. Wireless could be used to span great distances, and for so many experiments. The fascination of distant communications without wires was gripping and overwhelming.

>1914 Hiram Percy Maxin was one individual who could come up with the right ideas at the right time, and the ARRL was his heritage. No sooner had this enthusiasm caught fire when World War 1 broke out in Europe in 1914. The conflict went on for several years and sure enough the United States became involved in 1917. All radio amateurs received notices to dismantle their equipment. Many joined the services in one capacity or other, many into the Signal Corps, where their training and experiences as radio operators was greatly appreciated by the government.

NOTE: At the next meeting there will be on display a collection of pictures of Mr. Shalkhauser's early ham radio forms and equipment.

FCC REDUCES COST ON 'VANITY' CALLS

From W5YI Report 7/15/98

The vanity call sign regulatory fee will drop to its lowest cost ever effective September 14, 1998. A vanity call sign is an amateur station call sign selected by the FCC from a list of up to 25 call signs requested by the licensee.

According to Terry Johnson, N4ECF in the FCC's Office of Managing Director, the new fee will be $13.00 which will be payable in advance for the ten year term of the license. The current vanity call sign application fee is $50. This represents a reduction of nearly 75%!

Earlier this year, the FCC had proposed dropping the fee to $12.90/ But the actual fee was rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.

Important! The FCC says it has no plans to refund the difference between the current fee and the new fee for applicants who submit applications before the new fee schedule goes into effect in September.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike Abell W4EPU

He was an avid deer hunter. The deer season only lasted two weeks every year, but from the end of one season to the beginning of the next, he and his hunting buddies looked forward to and planned the next hunting expedition.

His wife, being very much involved in the support and planning stages, became more and more interested in going hunting herself. Each time she brought it up, he was able to talk her out of it.

Several seasons having passed since she first indicated her interest in deer hunting and was forever talking about it, he finally gave in. He bought for her a 300 Savage rifle. They went to the firing range every weekend where she took instructions and practiced until she became a proficient shooter.

By and by the next deer hunting season came around. He and she went to the hunting area together. They went to a deer stand on top of a ridge overlooking a valley. Across the valley was another ridge where there were also deer stands. He pointed out to her a deer trail along the floor of the valley. He said: "If you see a deer walking along the trail, shoot it." His parting words were: "If you do kill a deer, hurry down and 'tag' it, because there are other hunters on the ridge across the valley, and they may get there first and tag your deer, thus taking it away from you. Do everything you can to keep that from happening."

He left her there and proceeded to another stand a few hundred feet down along the ridge. He had hardly gotten settled into his stand when he heard the familiar 'boom' of her 300 Savage. For a few moments all was quiet. Then he heard a lot of yelling and screaming. He suspected that it was happening. Someone was trying to steal her deer, as he had warned. He went to her stand as fast as he could run. When he arrived she was standing only a few feet from a game warden. Her rifle was pointed right at his mid section.

The game warden was holding his hands high in the air and was pleading with her: "Ma'am, it's yours. You shot it and you can have it. But please, can I just take my saddle?" 73s es 88s

From Bits & Pieces

The owner of a hair salon in a small town enjoyed the serenity of knowing that he was the only salon in town. He was responsible for cutting and styling the hair of just about every resident.

His income allowed him to live comfortably and even send all of his six children to college.

Unfortunately for him, big business came to his town. Right across the street from his busy little hair salon sprang one of those new full-service salon franchises.

Immediately the media campaign began; ads in newspapers, magazines, and billboards announced, "EVERYTHING FOR $6.00! $6.00 HAIRCUTS, $6.00 PERMS, $6.00 MANICURES, EVERYTHING FOR $6.00.

Soon all of his customers - his neighbors - began visiting the salon across the street, and the man's business sat empty.

Desparate, he hired an expensive consultant. "I'm finished," he cried. "It's impossible for me, little me, to compete with them." The consultant squinted his eyes at the salon across the street. "Not just yet, not just yet."

With that the consultant picked up the phone and dialed the town's only billboard company. "Yes, on top of our salon...big letters...the message? WE FIX $6.00 HAIRCUTS.

JULY MEETING

By Nancy KD4ITX

The regular monthly meeting of the Titusville Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 1907 hours by Preisdent Bud Hughes, K4CWG. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence, 36 members and guests introduced themselves.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to vote in new members. The club welcomes Ira Morris, Jr., Clyde Carter/KE4GWQ, Jim Tyner/KF4UXT and Mary Tyner/KF4VAK.

Bill, W2SDB played Happy Birthday for those celebrating birthdays in July. He also played Red River Valley and It's a Small World.

Bud reminded everyone to send in articles of interest to be printed in our newsletter. You can also advertise your equipment for sale, or equipment you wish to purchase.

Ralph, AE4LE thanked everyone who took part in the fire emergency of Brevard County. We had volunteers who manned the evacuation centers and volunteers who were on the front lines of the fires with the firefighters. Everyone did a great job. However, some training is needed to do even a better job next time. Ralph asked for volunteers for the CAT team (Communication Assistance Team). You must be available to go to another county or state at a moments notice. If you can volunteer please give Ralph a call.

Bud asked the club to uphold the discussion of the board to purchase equipment to use during emergency situations. This equipment will be purchased with FEMA money. Carrying cases containing a 2 meter radio, power supply, antenna and coax, extension cord, log book, pencil, headphones and a badge will be put together for this purpose. A motion was made, seconded and carried to purchase this equipment. A motion was made, seconded and carried to pay $365 for equipment that has been purchased for this purpose. This equipment includes 3 carrying cases, an Icom 27H 2 meter, A Kenwood TM201A and an Astron RS-7A power supply.

Field Day was a success. The club made a total of 3190 points. Jerry, KC4YDP made 506 CW contacts. Thanks to everyone for the success of this event.

Bill, W2SDB has tickets to the Melbourne Hamfest. September 12 and 13 is the date. The cost is $4.00 advance, $6.00 at the door.

Pike reminded members to renew their subscriptions to ARRL, QST and Florida Skip through the club.

Bud reminded everyone that made purchases from AES from September 1997 - September 1998 to turn in their receipts so that the club may receive a 1% rebate on total purchases.

Bill announced that Roy Hill will be IRAC's guest speaker for August. He will talk about the 1998 fires.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours.

TREASURERS REPORT

By Clyde Lee K4EOS

Balance Forward From 1997	$5356.73
Deposits Year to Date	3104.39
TOTAL INCOME	**8461.11**
Expenditures	2869.04
BALANCE AS AT 05/31/98	**5592.08**
FEMA Escrow	1862.25
BALANCE-CLUB FUNDS	**$3729.83**

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

HURRICANE SEASON IS UPON US!!
TAKE THE TIME TO GET PREPARED!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 254 (190 regular, 57 family, 7 honorary)

NEW MEMBERS: KF4OXV PEGGY MILLER
KF4ZOJ G . K. PACE

RENEWALS:
KE4AGM CLARENCE LASURE
KE4AGO W. B. REALY
KE4AUA LARRY BRUETT
AF4EA WARREN MURRAY
KF4IGK GRANT HAHNE
W9LSD DICK DUEL
KU4NR CHUCK MANION
KF4FEY PENNY COPELAND
KE4NYM MATT KELLER
AE4OJ DAVID GREENWALD
KE4TOZ SANDY GREENWALD
KB0OQJ KEN HITCHCOCK
KF4QIP MIKE ALBRO
KE4SEK NICK GRAY
W2SDB BILL EPPLEY
WZTRX WALT FANTON
KC4WGU MIKE HENSLEY
KC4YDP JERRY RICHARDS

HAMFESTS:

SEPT.12/13	MELBOURNE
SEPT. 26	DAYTONA
SEPT. 27	NEW PORT RICHEY
OCT. 4	MAITLAND
OCT. 10/11	TAMPA
OCT. 17	STARKE
OCT.17/18	W.PALM BEACH
NOV. 7	SORRENTO
NOV. 14	TITUSVILLE
NOV. 14	PORT ST. LUCIE
NOV.21/22	TAMPA
DEC. 5	OKEECHOBEE
DEC. 5	OCALA
DEC.12	LAKE CIT